



SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Cherokee School District
Grades: PK-12 **Enrollment: 9,362**
Superintendent: Dr. William B. James
Board Chair: Mr. Billy Blackwell

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

| YEAR | ABSOLUTE RATING | GROWTH RATING | PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD | AYP STATUS | NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS |
|------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| 2008 | Below Average | Excellent | N/A | Not Met | CDI |
| 2007 | Below Average | Below Average | N/A | Not Met | NI |
| 2006 | Average | At-Risk | N/A | Not Met | N/A |

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

| EXCELLENT | GOOD | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | AT-RISK |
|-----------|------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 0 | 0 | 11 | 15 | 0 |

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 02/17/2009. Districts with Students like Ours are Districts with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

PACT

| PACT | 2008 Reading % Basic and above | 2008 Math % Basic and above | 2008 Science % Basic and above | 2008 Social Studies % Basic and above |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| District | 70.6% | 72.7% | 59.1% | 57.5% |
| Districts with Students Like Ours** | 74.8% | 75.4% | 65.4% | 68.9% |
| Average District | 76.0% | 76.0% | 67.4% | 71.3% |

| PACT | 2008 Reading % Proficient & Advanced | 2008 Math % Proficient & Advanced | 2008 Science % Proficient & Advanced | 2008 Social Studies % Proficient & Advanced |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| District | 32.9% | 32.4% | 26.4% | 20.5% |
| Districts with Students Like Ours** | 35.7% | 34.1% | 33.6% | 31.4% |
| Average District | 37.6% | 35.1% | 36.4% | 34.7% |

HSAP

| HSAP: 2nd Year Students | Passed 2 Subtests (%) | Passed 1 Subtests (%) | Passed No Subtests (%) |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| District | 82.2% | 9.2% | 8.6% |
| Districts with Students Like Ours** | 78.5% | 11.2% | 10.3% |

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2008 (%)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| District | 94.1% |
| Districts with Students Like Ours** | 93.1% |

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| District | 60.7% |
| Districts with Students Like Ours** | 61.8% |

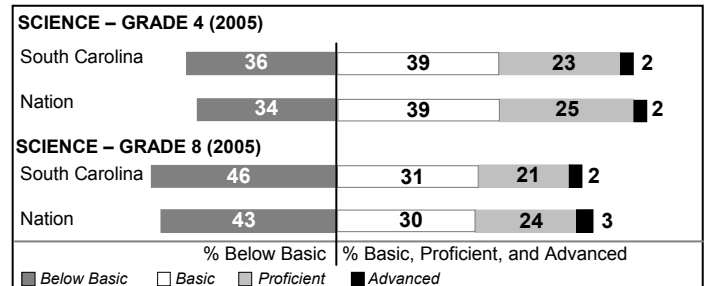
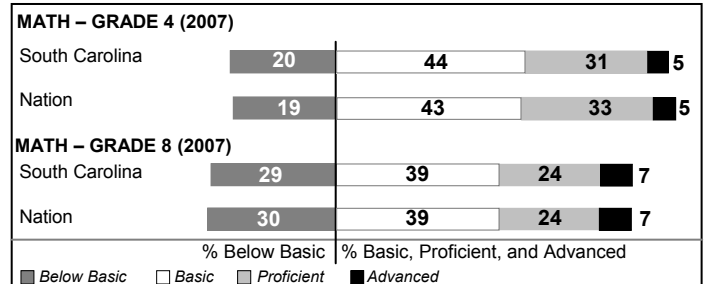
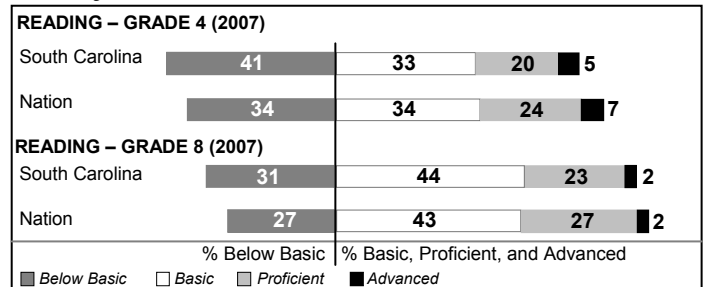
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| District | 78.7% |
| Districts with Students Like Ours** | 77.1% |

** Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

NAEP*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Goal: TBD

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined
 NI Newly Identified CDI Continuing District Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY District Improvement Status HOLD District Improvement Status

Cherokee School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

| | Our District | Change from Last Year | Districts with Students Like Ours | Median District |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Students (n=9,362) | | | | |
| Retention rate | 2.7% | Down from 3.5% | 4.2% | 4.0% |
| Attendance rate | 96.0% | Down from 96.2% | 95.5% | 95.6% |
| Eligible for gifted and talented | 15.6% | Down from 16.0% | 12.0% | 11.4% |
| With disabilities other than speech | 6.7% | Up from 5.9% | 11.4% | 10.5% |
| Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses | 0.2% | Down from 0.4% | 0.7% | 0.8% |
| Enrolled in AP/IB programs | 9.9% | Down from 10.1% | 9.5% | 10.3% |
| Successful on AP/IB exams | 42.5% | N/A | 56.0% | 56.0% |
| Eligible for LIFE Scholarship | 49.4% | Down from 56.2% | 30.3% | 31.1% |
| Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs | 217 | Down from 219 | 52 | 48 |
| Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs | 95 | Down from 113 | 30 | 27 |
| Annual dropout rate | 8.3% | Up from 3.9% | 3.6% | 3.8% |
| Teachers (n=688) | | | | |
| Teachers with advanced degrees | 54.8% | Up from 53.3% | 55.0% | 54.8% |
| Continuing contract teachers | 81.1% | Down from 81.9% | 75.8% | 73.9% |
| Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates | 2.3% | Up from 1.7% | 3.8% | 5.0% |
| Teachers returning from previous year | 91.4% | Down from 91.5% | 90.1% | 88.8% |
| Teacher attendance rate | 94.2% | Down from 94.4% | 94.7% | 94.9% |
| Average teacher salary | \$44,452 | Up 3.2% | \$45,096 | \$45,107 |
| Vacancies for more than nine weeks | 0.4% | Up from 0.0% | 0.6% | 0.5% |
| Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers | 2.1% | No Change | 2.2% | 2.5% |
| District | | | | |
| Superintendent's years at district | 7.0 | Up from 6.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 |
| Student-teacher ratio in core subjects | 19.4 to 1 | Down from 19.5 to 1 | 19.6 to 1 | 20.2 to 1 |
| Prime instructional time | 89.0% | Up from 88.9% | 88.7% | 89.1% |
| Dollars spent per pupil* | \$8,678 | Up 4.5% | \$8,641 | \$8,666 |
| Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries* | 52.5% | Down from 53.4% | 54.2% | 53.1% |
| Percent of expenditures for instruction* | 55.8% | Down from 56.4% | 57.6% | 56.5% |
| Opportunities in the arts | Excellent | No Change | Excellent | Excellent |
| Number of schools | 19 | No Change | 10 | 9 |
| Portable classrooms | 2.1% | Down from 7.9% | 2.6% | 4.3% |
| Average age in years of school facilities | 23 Years | Down from 25 Years | 26 Years | 26 Years |
| Number of schools with SACS accreditation | 19.0 | No Change | 10.0 | 8.0 |
| Average administrator salary | \$73,392 | Up 0.8% | \$75,683 | \$76,032 |
| Number of charter schools | 0 | No Change | 0 | 0 |
| % of AYP objectives met | 65.5% | | 71.4% | 69.7% |

* Prior year audited financial data available.

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

| School Name | Absolute Rating | Growth Rating | Adequate Yearly Progress |
|--|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| There are no charter schools in this district. | | | |

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Cherokee County School District continues to strive for excellence in education. Our students, faculty, staff, administration, and board members have worked together for a common goal by offering quality public education for all students in Cherokee County. This has been a most successful year for education in Cherokee County yet.

The district's commitment to student achievement is evident in the accomplishments of our students this year. The average district SAT score rose 19 points and the AP pass rate is at the national average. PACT and HSAP scores continue to improve.

Students have excelled in academics, athletics, and fine arts. Forty of our middle school students were named Junior Scholars. One of our students was named a National Merit Scholar and the Class of 2008 earned more than \$9 million in scholarships.

Our teachers demonstrated skill using strategies to improve instruction. Standards-based curriculum guides and test analysis were used to promote the use of best practices in the classrooms. Technology was utilized throughout the district to further enhance instruction. Four of our teachers received state recognition as Teacher of the Year in their respective field of education.

The schools on our district have been recognized with numerous awards this year. Blacksburg High was honored with the Palmetto Gold Award. Alma Elementary, Corinth Elementary, and Gaffney High were honored with the Red Carpet Awards. Cherokee County Adult Education Program received a Palmetto Trend Setter Award.

The building program has been a priority for two years and has just been completed. The new facilities include a 9th grade addition at Blacksburg High, a 9th grade addition at Gaffney High, classrooms at Goucher Elementary, a new Community Learning Center, and a new stadium at Gaffney High. Instructional technology has been a major focus throughout the district and our district has received national recognition for implementation of the Classroom Performance System. Activboards, document cameras, iPods, LCD projectors, and virtual field trips are some of the examples of instructional technology provided by the school district.

Cherokee County School District focuses on "Meeting Today's Challenge, Building Tomorrow's Future!" Our commitment to public education is evident and we are proud of our students' accomplishments. The goal to provide a safe and positive environment for students can be attained through mutual cooperation of home, school, and community. Thanks for your support of public education.

Dr. William B. James, Superintendent

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